

Message Text

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TO COMMAC FOR POLAD IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091793

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, INFO SAIGON, ANDERSON AFB,
13TH AF, CINCPACREPPHIL, CINCARPAC, CINCPACFLT, JSC, CINCPAC,
NSC, APRIL 22, FROM MANILA RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5098

STATE FOR INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE FOR VIETNAMESE EVACUATION
AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS, RP

SUBJECT: INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE FOR VIETNAMESE EVACUATION AND
HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

REF: AMBASSADOR - PARKER BORG TELCON

1. HAVE JUST RECEIVED NOTE FROM DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
WHICH STIPULATES FOLLOWING GUIDELINE FOR USE OF U.S. BASES
IN PHILIPPINES FOR VIETNAM EVACUEES:

"A. NO MORE THAN 200 EVACUEES SHALL BE AT THE BASE AT
ANY ONE TIME'

"B. THE EVACUEES SHALL DEPART FROM THE BASE FOR ANOTHER
COUNTRY WITHIN THREE DAYS;

"C. THE EVACUEES SHALL NOT GO OUTSIDE THE BASE;

"D. THE LENGTH OF TIME OF THIS EVACUATION THROUGH THE
BASE SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, TAKING
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INTO ACCOUNT THE PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES."

2. HAD EVACUEES BEEN MORE CAREFULLY SCREENED FOR ELIGIBILITY AND STAGED MORE QUICKLY THROUGH PHILIPPINES, GOP ACTION MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED. HOWEVER, SEE NO CHOICE NOW BUT TO COMPLY WITH GOP INSTRUCTION. WE HAVE TOO MANY PROBLEMS PENDING WITH GOP ALREADY AS RESULT OF INDOCHINA COLLAPSE WITHOUT FURTHER ANTAGONIZING GOP EITHER BY IGNORING INSTRUCTION OR TRYING TO BEG FOR EXCEPTION. GOP HAS BEEN UNUSUALLY COOPERATIVE IN PERMITTING USE OF BASES FOR EVACUATION BUT WE HAVE ABUSED THEIR TOLERANCE.

3. BY TONIGHT, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE EVACUEE POPULATION AT CLARK WILL BE OVER 5,000-THAT IS BEYOND THE LIMITS OF CLARK'S SHORT-TIME STAGING CAPACITY. ONLY ONE PLANE IS SCHEDULED TODAY FROM CLARK TO TRAVIS FOR ONWARD TRAVEL OF DOCUMENTED EVACUEES. MANY EVACUEES HAVE NO DOCUMENTATION, MANY OTHERS PROBABLY WITH FAULTY DOCUMENTATION, OTHERS WILL REQUIRE LENGTHY PROCESSING OF QUOTA VISAS, WHILE STILL OTHERS MAY PROVE INELIGIBLE FOR ENTRY INTO U.S. UNDER CURRENT INTERPRETATION OF IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS.

4. IN ORDER TO PREVENT FURTHER DETERIORATION OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE PHILIPPINES, THE FOLLOWING COURSES OF ACTION MUST BE TAKEN IMMEDIATELY:

A. NO MORE THIRD COUNTRY EVACUEES PERMITTED TO STAGE THROUGH U.S. BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES UNTIL BACKLOG CLEARED.

B. BACKLOG OF EVACUEES AT CLARK MUST BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY. ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ACCELERATE CLARK-U.S. MOVEMENT. PAROLE AUTHORITY FOR OUR CONSULS MIGHT HELP WITH DOCUMENTATION BUT EVACUEES WITH DOCUMENTATION PROBLEMS SHOULD BE REMOVED TO GUAM OR OTHER U.S. INSTALLATION WHERE THEY CAN BE QUARANTINED AND PROCESSED IN MORE LEISURELY FASHION.

5. I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO INFORM THE GOP THAT WE WILL COMPLY WITH THEIR INSTRUCTIONS AND WILL HAVE THE BACKLOG AT CLARK DOWN TO 200 MAXIMUM BY SATURDAY. SULLIVAN UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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